



### Manufacturing Boot Camp Closes with Parent Luncheon

On Friday, June 30<sup>th</sup>, 83 AmSkills Manufacturing Boot Camp participants, Career Launch Candidates, Pre-Apprentices, Apprentices, instructors, families and friends attended the end of summer camp barbecue and celebration at the AmSkills Regional Headquarters & Training Center. Camp participants presented their projects completed during the 3-week camp, which included building 3D printers; reading blueprints, measuring, marking and making the "genius game"; making metal picture frames to hold their certificates; completing a ropes course participating in team building activities; and tours of several local manufacturers. Many campers expressed interest in joining the fall Youth Pre-Apprenticeship Program. One student stated "I had know idea what I wanted to do with my career, but now I do, thanks AmSkills."

### AmSkills™ Referral Program

Do you know a family member that likes to take things apart? Or a teenager that seems lost and not sure what to do with her life? Or a neighbor that has been looking for work, but just can't find the right job? If yes, how about referring them to AmSkills!!! AmSkills needs your help to spread the word on how we can our help youth (ages 15-17), adults and veterans to not only learn the skills needed to get a job, but the support to help them "launch a career." The Adult Pre-Apprenticeship Program starts on July 10<sup>th</sup> in Pasco and August 10<sup>th</sup> in Pinellas and Hernando Counties. We need your help to spread the word and "refer a friend." Please have them go to [www.AmSkills.org](http://www.AmSkills.org) to register or call Melinda @ 727-301-1282 ext. 126.

### Thanks to the HAAS NASCAR Race Team for Inviting AmSkills™ Pre-Apprentices to the Daytona Firecracker 250 Race

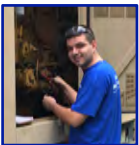
Four AmSkills Pre-Apprentices and two instructors were provided "VIP" tickets to attend the Firecracker 250 in Daytona on June 30<sup>th</sup> and the AmSkills logo was added to Cole Custer's #00 car. Trevor Charlton & Brian Davis of AmSkills were the chaperone's for Justyn Bowes, Hunter Arseneau, Nick Desantis and Bryan Turner who were given a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to attend a dinner with the race team, attend the drivers meeting, meet Doug Yates, President/CEO of Roush Engines and watch the race from the HAAS pits. Special thanks to Toni Neary, HAAS Director of Education, Morris Group, Inc. for inviting AmSkills to experience such a fantastic event.



The Society of Manufacturing Engineers (SME) is a nationwide organization that promotes advanced manufacturing technology and develops a skilled workforce. AmSkills is partnering with SME to utilize their ToolingU online curriculum providing more certification opportunities for the AmSkills Pre-Apprentice and Apprenticeship program. With the addition of this curriculum, AmSkills Pre-Apprentices will be able to complete portions of their 20% theoretical lessons at home, thus potentially increasing their hands-on skills time when at the AmSkills Training Center. AmSkills has recently purchased some computers through the Department of Education Grant, however additional computers are needed to lend to students who may not have one or while in AmSkills training. If you are able to donate a laptop(s) or funds to purchase, please contact Tom Mudano to discuss how your tax deductible donation can be made to our new AmSkills Apprenticeship Foundation, inc.

All AmSkills Youth Pre-Apprentices will also receive a free membership to SME and we are excited to start utilizing these excellent learning tools for our Candidates.

### 7 Pasco Pre-Apprentices Working for Pasco County Departments



Nick Desantis  
Working On Generator

This year, Pasco County has again accepted 7 of our Pasco County Pre-Apprentices in paid jobs for 6-week summer internship program. Candidates are working in Utilities, Public Works and Stormwater Treatment departments and AmSkills has received very positive feedback about all of our Pre-Apprentices.

Unfortunately, Hernando and Pinellas County were unable to participate this year, however both have expressed interest in getting the program up and running by next summer.

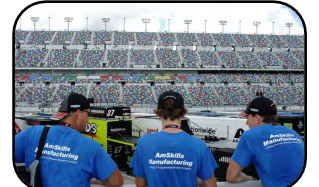
### New Florida Department of Education Director of Apprenticeships Meets with AmSkills™



Tom Mudano, AmSkills Executive Director & Ted Norman, FDOE Director of Apprenticeships

Tom Mudano and Trevor Charlton recently met with Ted Norman, the new Florida Department of Education (FDOE), Director of Apprenticeship to introduce AmSkills and discuss the AmSkills Apprenticeship Program. Currently, AmSkills is Registered Apprenticeship Program for four tracks and we are in the process of adding CNC Machining as well as finalizing our registration for our Pre-Apprenticeship Program. The FDOE does not allow Pre-Apprenticeships to be registered until after the Apprenticeship Registration Process is complete. Even though we have our Pre-Apprenticeship Program in operation, we were able to confirm that the hours our students have spent in the Pre-Apprenticeship will count towards their Apprenticeship, as determined by the AmSkills Apprenticeship Committee. Every Apprenticeship Program must have a local Apprenticeship Committee and AmSkills Committee is made up of Peter Buczynsky, PharmaWorks; Derek Diaz, Bic Graphic; Roy Sweatman, SMT; Rocky Johnson, Seaway Plasctics; John Holcolm, Barrette's and Trevor Charlton, AmSkills.

Trevor and I would like to thank Ted for taking time from his busy schedule to meet with us to review our Pre-Apprenticeship and Apprenticeship Program with us; as well as discuss opportunities for us to further work with the schools systems on dual enrollment.



## AmSkills™ in Discussions to Create Instructor & Apprentice Exchange Program With Germany

Cultural Vistas is a nonprofit exchange organization promoting global understanding and collaboration among individuals and institutions. The European Office of Cultural Vistas gGmbH is based in Berlin, Germany, and offers a range of programs in Europe and the United States, including customized internship placements with companies in all industries, professional study tours around select topics of global importance, and professional exchange programs. AmSkills is in discussions to establish an exchange program that would send our instructors to Germany for them to learn first hand how German instructors teach Apprentices; and potentially establish an Apprentice Exchange Program. More details to come in 2018.



## AmSkills™ Makes Presentation to NACo International Economic Development Task Force

On Thursday, June 15<sup>th</sup>, Pasco County Commissioner and AmSkills Board Member Kathryn Starkey; and Tom Mudano, Executive Director of AmSkills presented to the National Association of Counties International Economic Development Task Force via conference call. The Task Force facilitates the exchange of information, ideas and resources, and guides NACo programming, concerning county-level engagement in international economic development activities. The AmSkills presentation focused on how Apprenticeship programs are a driver of Economic Development within the community and how the AmSkills program is helping Pasco, Pinellas and Hernando Counties to attract new business' to the Tampa Bay Region.

## State of Florida Apprenticeship Grant Steering Committee

Tom Mudano was recently appointed to State of Florida Apprenticeship Grant Steering Committee to provide input on current concerns, issues and recommendations related to the State of Florida Apprenticeship program. This Grant was awarded to three Florida Colleges (Florida State College at Jacksonville, Broward College and St. Petersburg College) in 2016 for the purpose of expanding Apprenticeships in the State of Florida. On June 14<sup>th</sup>, Trevor Charlton joined Tom on a conference call and provided input on some of the challenges and opportunities related to the manufacturing industry. In addition, we were able to share our experiences of developing our Pre-Apprenticeship and Apprenticeships programs.

## Upcoming ICTC Governing Board Meetings Upcoming Events

- Congressman Gus Bilirakis is scheduled to visit the AmSkills Regional Headquarters on Friday, July 21<sup>st</sup> from 11<sup>am</sup> to 12<sup>pm</sup>.
- Executive/Finance Committee: Scheduled meeting for August 3<sup>rd</sup> at our AmSkills Pasco Location from 12:30<sup>pm</sup> to 3:30<sup>pm</sup>. Agenda includes FY2016 Audit report, presentation of preliminary FY18 Budget, Business Plan Draft and update on AmSkills Apprenticeship Foundation, Inc.
- German American Chamber of Commerce (GACC) Event: Monday, Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>, 630pm to 900pm, "AmSkills – A New Approach to Workforce Education"
- ICTC Governing Board Meeting: Scheduled for September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017 at Marchman Technical College, 12:30<sup>pm</sup> to 3:30<sup>pm</sup>.

### Community Connections

#### ICTC (Related to All Counties)

Upper Tampa Bay Manufacturing Association Coalition Meeting  
Florida Department of Education Apprenticeship Regional Update  
Attended Manufacturing Day Planning Committee Meeting

#### Pasco County

Pasco Economic Development Council Board: AmSkills Presentation  
Jobs & Economic Opportunities Committee: AmSkills Presentation  
Conducted Sun Lake High Robotics Team CNC Machinist Workshop  
Pasco County Internship Conference Call with Human Resources  
Meeting with Pasco/Hernando Career Source to discuss funding options

#### Pinellas County

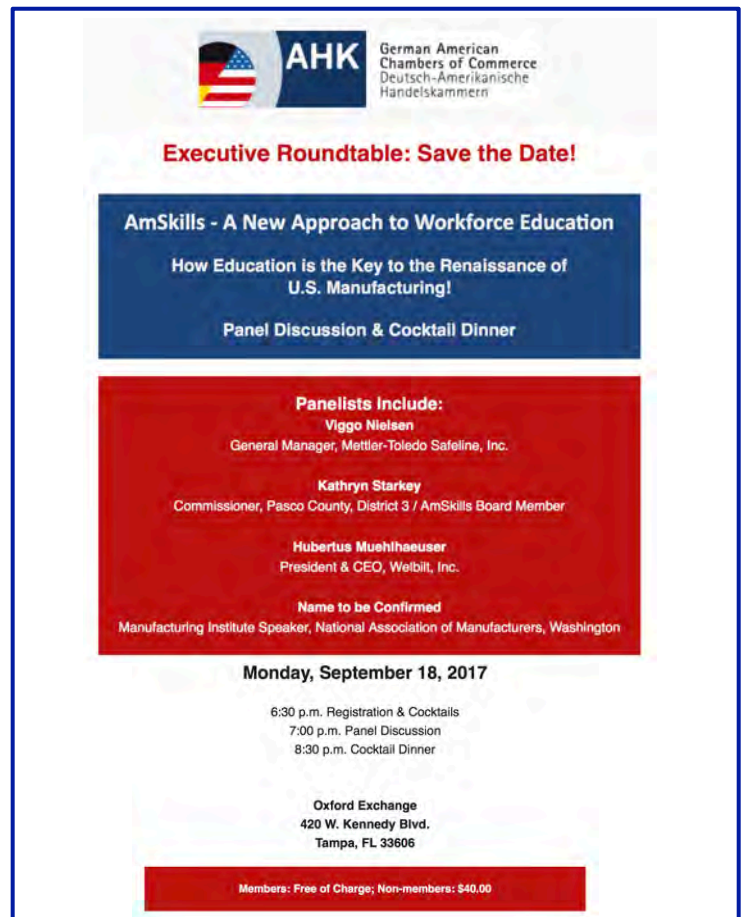
Commissioner & AmSkills Update Meetings: Met with last Commissioner  
AmSkills Update Meeting with Mike Meidel, Economic Development Director  
Attended Florida West Coast Chapter of NTMA Chapter Event  
Presentation to South St. Petersburg Department of Juvenile Justice  
Tour of Integral Machining (Clearwater)  
Meeting with Pinellas Technical College regarding Adult Pre-Apprenticeship and Fall Dual Enrollment Programs

#### Hernando County

Commissioner & AmSkills Update Meetings & BOCC Update  
Tours & Presentations to Intrepid Machining & ICTC Global  
Pre-Apprentice Tours of Intrepid, Accuform & Barrette's Manufacturers  
Apprentice Candidates Interviewed at Qorvo  
Attended Chamber of Commerce Training Committee Meeting

#### Hillsborough County

Tour of Ruag Manufacturing & Apprentice Candidate Tour



**Executive Roundtable: Save the Date!**

**AmSkills - A New Approach to Workforce Education**  
How Education is the Key to the Renaissance of U.S. Manufacturing!  
Panel Discussion & Cocktail Dinner

**Panelists Include:**  
**Viggo Nielsen**  
General Manager, Mettler-Toledo Safeline, Inc.  
**Kathryn Starkey**  
Commissioner, Pasco County, District 3 / AmSkills Board Member  
**Hubertus Muehlhaeuser**  
President & CEO, Welbilt, Inc.  
**Name to be Confirmed**  
Manufacturing Institute Speaker, National Association of Manufacturers, Washington

**Monday, September 18, 2017**

6:30 p.m. Registration & Cocktails  
7:00 p.m. Panel Discussion  
8:30 p.m. Cocktail Dinner

**Oxford Exchange**  
420 W. Kennedy Blvd.  
Tampa, FL 33606

Members: Free of Charge; Non-members: \$40.00

Check Out Recent Articles or Events Related to State and/or National Apprenticeships on the Following Pages

**More Pictures of AmSkills Pre-Apprentices at Daytona Firecracker 250 Race Thanks to HAAS**





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### Chargé d’Affaires Erath Hosts the Global Tampa Bay Investment Delegation

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On May 15, Chargé d’Affaires Tara Erath welcomed the Global Tampa Bay investment delegation and Swiss business leaders at the official residence to highlight the Greater Tampa area as an investment destination. In her opening remarks, Chargé Erath emphasized the Florida region’s opportunity to build upon existing links with Switzerland and the formidable economic dynamism in the Tampa area. A number of Swiss businesses from different industries already call the Greater Tampa area home. The Tampa Bay delegation and AmSkills officials also visited Libs, Switzerland’s

leading skilled-trades training center, and ABB in Zurich. A leading training center for Switzerland’s machinery, electronics and metal industry, Libs provides recruitment, basic education and specialist training for apprentices for nearly 100 member companies, including ABB, one of the founders of Libs. The purpose of the trip was to learn firsthand how the Swiss renowned dual education model works.

## Apprenticeships in the News In June

The following are recent articles published related to Apprenticeships in the State of Florida, U.S. or Internationally.

### On Our Radar

RT @FoxBusiness: Oil rises on signs of U.S. inventory declines, lower Saudi exports

### **Ivanka Trump: CEOs can't fill 6 million jobs, more skill-based training needed**

By [Brittany De Lea](#) Published June 12, 2017 [White House](#) [FOXBusiness](#)



Donald Trump and his daughter Ivanka (R) attend the ground breaking ceremony of the Trump International Hotel at the Old Post Office Building in Washington July 23, 2014. (Reuters)

The Trump administration is refocusing efforts back on its biggest campaign promise – putting more Americans back to work – following a week of turmoil centered on former FBI Director James Comey's congressional testimony.

On Monday the president communicated the White House's renewed message via Twitter, pointing to recent economic data as a positive indicator of what's in store for the American economy.

Daughter Ivanka, the president's special advisor, was also stumping for jobs Monday, mentioning the "animal spirit" that is being set free among the small business community. However, she acknowledged there is still much more work to do, highlighting that while economists say the labor market is at or near full employment, many Americans have either stopped searching for jobs altogether or are working part-time when they want to be full-time.

"We need the full participation, so many people are also working jobs that are part-time. And it's an enormous problem in this country, the number of part-time workers who are working two and three jobs, that, collectively, they're making less than when they worked one job," Trump said during an interview on FOX & Friends Monday.

While the traditional unemployment rate fell to 4.3 percent in May, the number of part-time workers seeking full-time employment or discouraged job seekers – called the U-6 unemployment rate – was still at 8.4 percent. Even though the U-6 has been closing in on pre-crisis levels, Trump says a priority for the administration is to bridge that gap and connect job seekers with the millions of openings executives are trying to fill.

"There are 6 million available American jobs. So we're constantly hearing from CEOs that they have job openings but they don't have workers with the skill set they need to fill those jobs," she said.



**Tamar Jacoby, Contributor**  
President, Opportunity America

# Trump's Job Training Program Gets The Government Out Of The Way

If it works, Trump's apprenticeship initiative will give more control to the people who know best what skills are needed — employers.

06/22/2017 11:45 am ET

A small group of employers gathered recently around a table in a windowless conference room in Greensboro, North Carolina. Most of them ran construction companies or advanced manufacturing firms with no more than a few hundred employees. All had considered launching apprenticeship programs but decided not to — and my organization wanted to know why. What did they perceive as the downsides?

We expected to hear complaints about a variety of issues: obstacles to creating a highly structured multi-year program that combines classroom learning with hands-on job experience, cost, concern that their companies would invest in training only to watch other employers lure trainees away with higher pay, and an expectation — sometimes right, sometimes wrong — that creating an apprenticeship program would mean opening their doors to a labor union. None of these were major concerns. What all the employers around the table were most worried about was that they had to register any apprenticeship program with the government.

“We know we need to train workers,” one contractor who specialized in bridge building explained. “And we’re prepared to pay the cost. But I don’t want the government coming into my company, telling me what to teach my own workers and overseeing the day-to-day details of my training program.”

The executive order on apprenticeship signed in the Oval Office last week lines up well with these employers’ concerns. The order opened the door to what President Donald Trump called “industry-recognized” apprenticeship programs and created a new task force to streamline the registration process that the bridge contractor and many other employers find so burdensome.

Trump’s order is good news on many levels. After more than two years of unlikely promises — to restore coal mining, end offshoring and recreate the manufacturing jobs of a bygone era — the president is finally focusing on a solution that could make a difference for the working-class voters who elected him: skills.

The American workforce is changing dramatically. In field after field, machines are taking over routine tasks and creating new openings for skilled workers with specialized technical training. College is still a good choice for many but so are an array of other paths: programs that prepare workers for what economists call “middle-skill” jobs — positions that require more than high school but less than four years of college — in manufacturing, construction, health care, information technology, transportation and a host of other fields. Indeed, in some instances, middle-skill training pays off better than college. A custom welder can make more than \$100,000 a year.

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Employers and educators agree: apprenticeship is one of the best ways to qualify for middle-skill jobs — the gold standard of 21st-century workforce training. It works as well as it does for a number of reasons. By definition, it involves employers — the only reliable way to make sure trainees are learning skills that are in demand in today’s job market. Research proves beyond much doubt: students who combine classroom learning with hands-on practice learn more and faster than other students. Apprentices take home a decent wage and earn a nationally recognized credential they can carry with them to their next job.

## Trump's Job Training Program Gets The Government Out Of The Way

Employers win too: what better way to groom a worker than over three or four years of on-the-job training?

Still, despite these advantages, American employers have been slow to adopt apprenticeship. President Obama spent \$260 million to jumpstart new programs and saw only a modest uptick. Trump hopes to do better by easing regulations and spending more — his proposed annual outlay would more than double Obama's.

Both ideas make sense. But whether or not Trump succeeds will depend on how he does it. Halfhearted reform is unlikely to work, and the task force must listen to employers — small and medium-sized firms as well as Fortune 500 companies.

Streamlining the registration process is a good place to start, but simply cutting red tape will not be enough. The task force must also rethink regulatory requirements.

Simply cutting red tape will not be enough.

Currently, registration focuses mostly on what educators call “inputs:” how training is structured and what happens in the workplace. That's why many employers don't like it: they don't want the government interfering at the company. No one expects Washington to spend federal dollars — even the limited dollars that go toward apprenticeship — without some standards or quality assurance. But employment outcomes would make more revealing metrics than program inputs: do trainees learn new skills, do they get jobs, do they get promoted, do they earn more after the apprenticeship than they did before they started? Employers fearful of meddling bureaucrats would prefer these yardsticks — but so should anyone who cares about quality training programs.

Another important fix the task force should consider involves the credentials trainees earn upon completing apprenticeship programs. As is, they get a journeyman's certificate based on the curriculum that the sponsoring employer or educator of the program submits to the government when it applies to be registered. That's something: the credential attests that the trainee has learned what the sponsor specified he or she should learn. But it's hardly a national or even statewide standard. One potential remedy: make passing a standardized competency test or attaining an industry-recognized credential the default requirement for a journeyman's certificate — to be modified only in instances where the program sponsor can make a persuasive case.

What better way to groom a worker than over three or four years of on-the-job training?

The president's new task force has its work cut out for it, and it may face political headwinds as it strives to chart a course that satisfies both business and labor. Unions have traditionally resisted any tampering with the registration process.

The Trump administration should also avoid Obama's mistake: putting all its chips on apprenticeship at the expense of other skills-training programs. Gold standard that it is, apprenticeship is not for everyone. It's the training equivalent of a marathon: long, expensive, arduous and not appropriate for every job. Shorter, more modest programs also work best when they incorporate the principles associated with apprenticeship: employer involvement, a portable credential and classroom learning paired with hands-on training. But employers and employees who can't run a marathon need other options — 10k, 5k, even 1k races — and Washington should use seed funding and other incentives to encourage those models too.

The bottom line for the Trump administration: good start — but the devil is in the details. The stakes could hardly be higher. For all the important issues on the table in Washington, few are more significant than workforce skills — equipping American workers with the skills they need to succeed in the jobs of today and tomorrow.